



# US 395 – Columbia Drive to SR 240 Rebuild Interchange

## Project Purpose

This project will reconfigure the US 395/SR 240 interchange to improve traffic flow and reduce the risk of collisions.

## Project Benefits

- Improve safety
- Reduce accidents
- Improve traffic efficiency
- Reduce congestion

## Estimated Total Project Cost

Total: \$ 19.0 million  
(Includes engineering, right of way, and construction costs)

## Project Timeline

Start Design: Summer 2006  
Start Construction: Spring 2009

## Why is WSDOT improving the interchange?

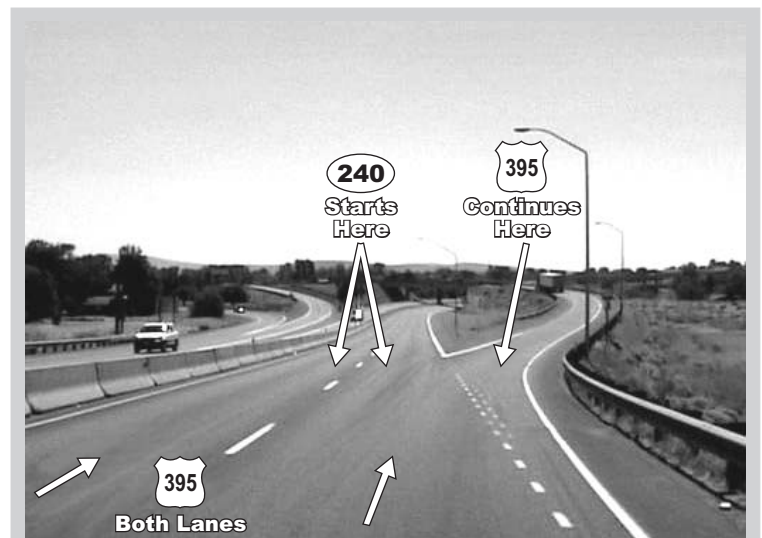
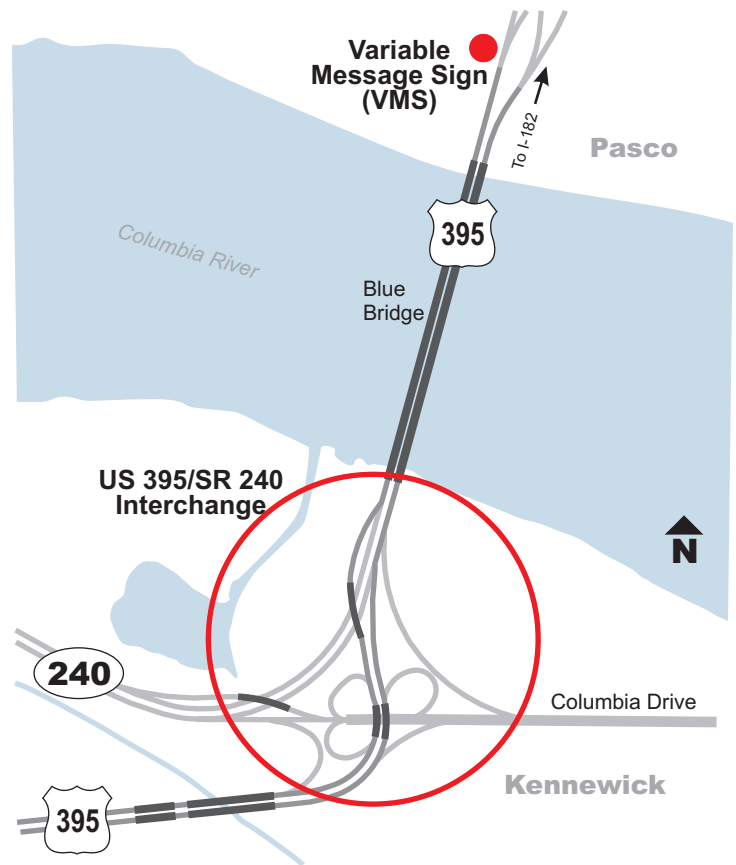
US 395 and SR 240 are both heavily traveled highways. Currently, the interchange has two through-lanes for SR 240, and a single lane branching off for SR 395. However, the primary traffic flow is onto the ramp for US 395, so backups occur regularly. Interchange improvements will allow two through-lanes for US 395 with an exit ramp to SR 240.

Congestion and conflicts between vehicles trying to move into the SR 395 exit-lane pose dangerous driving conditions and result in a number of traffic accidents. In the past three years, the Washington State Patrol responded to over 350 accidents on or near the Blue Bridge.

In 2004, a project funded by the nickel gas tax added a Variable Message Sign (VMS) for traffic heading south on US 395. Several times a month, messages on the VMS warn motorists of accident-related congestion to help prevent additional accidents. This interchange project will improve traffic flow and further reduce the likelihood of collisions.

### MAKING EVERY DOLLAR COUNT.

This project is funded in part by the 2005 Transportation Partnership Funding Package. The main source of funding is a 9.5¢ increase in the gas tax, phased in over four years. The package also includes a new vehicle weight fee and increases in other license fees and charges.



Existing interchange configuration

US 395 and SR 240 looking south from the Blue Bridge towards Kennewick

## US 395 / SR 240 Interchange



Existing Condition



Proposed New Construction

### For More Information

#### WSDOT – South Central Region

Moe Davari, Project Engineer  
1655 Fowler Street  
Richland, WA 99352  
Phone – (509) 222-2402  
E-mail – [DavariM@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:DavariM@wsdot.wa.gov)

[www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/)